

# CURRENT LINE

DAR STATEWIDE PROJECT INFORMATION NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 4, NUMBER 3, November 2000

## LICENSES, RULES & REGULATIONS

**FRESHWATER  
FISHING LICENSE  
NOW AVAILABLE  
ONLINE**



You can now purchase a freshwater fishing license through the DLNR Website. DLNR's Data Processing Office, the DAR, and eHawaiiGov (the state's Internet portal provider) worked together to provide this online service as an option for those who wish to purchase a freshwater fishing license without having to take time to go directly to a licensing agent and wait in line.

If you decide to purchase a freshwater fishing license online, a convenience fee of \$1 will be added to the price of the license. If you prefer not to pay the convenience fee, you may still purchase your license at any fishing supply store that is a license vendor or at any DAR office.

If you purchase a license online and are planning to fish in the Wahiawa Public Fishing Area, you still need to obtain a **Wahiawa Public Fishing Area Permit** (at no additional cost) from a local fishing supply store that is a license vendor or from any DAR office.

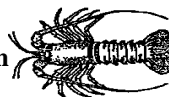
The Website address to purchase freshwater fishing licenses is available at:

**<http://www.state.hi.us/dlnr>**



## **REMINDERS** **"Open Season"**

**Spiny Lobster Season  
Slipper Lobster Season  
& Kona Crab Season**  
is now **open** as of September 1st and will run till April 31st. Remember that minimum size for home consumption or sale is as follows:



	<i>Home Consumption</i>	<i>Commercial Sale</i>
Spiny Lobsters	3-1/4 inches carapace length	3-1/4 inches carapace length
Slipper Lobsters	2-3/4 inches tail width	2-3/4 inches tail width
Kona Crab	no restriction	4 inches long or wide

Other restrictions include no spearing, no taking with eggs, animals must be taken whole only and cannot be taken mutilated.

## **Moi & Moi-li'i Season**

is now **open** as of September 1st and will run till May 31st. Remember that minimum size for home consumption or sale is 7 inches.



**From November to  
June halalu** (juvenile akule measuring under 8-1/2 inches in total length) **may be taken with nets that have a minimum mesh size of 1-1/2 inches.**



## **"Closed Season"**

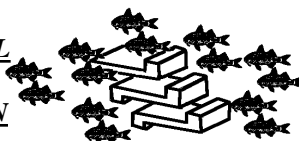
**Mullet Season** (for 'ama' ama or striped mullet) is **closed** between December to February. Open Season will resume on March 1st and run till November 30th.



**Waikiki Diamond Head Fishery Management Area** will be **closed** to fishing from January 1, 2001 to December 31, 2001. The area will be open to fishing from January 1, 2002 to December 31, 2002.

## INSHORE PROJECTS

### **OAHU ARTIFICIAL REEF EXPANSION**

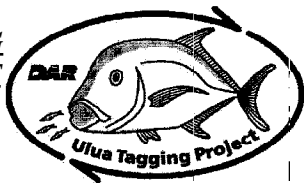


Nearly 3,300 "Z" shaped fish habitats added to Oahu Artificial Reefs this summer. On July 3, 2000, 1,576 "z" habitats were deployed in two areas of the Waiānae Artificial Reef. In addition, 1,714 "z" habitats were added to the Maunaloa Bay Artificial Reef on August 24, 2000. North Pacific Construction, Inc. was contacted for tug and barge services to complete both deployments. The cost to fabricate, transport, load, and deploy the 3,300 habitats was over half a million dollars or about \$155 each. However, most if not all the cost for this operation was funded by federal aid monies due to reimbursements and in-kind matching from donated materials and services.

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**ULUA  
TAGGING  
PROJECT  
UPDATE**



A few years ago, the Division of Aquatic Resources' Uluu Tagging Project was developed with the help and initiative of a few members of the Hilo Casting Club. In July of this year, the Project has been upgraded with new tags and the development of new tagging kits for distribution to fishermen. Hawaii's fishermen play a key role in this Project by voluntarily providing the majority of this tagging effort.

Since July, over 100 kits have been issued to Hawaii fishermen who have graciously volunteered to tag and release ulua, papio and kahala. Along with these kits, 1733 tags were distributed among 44 shoreline fishermen, 3 fishing/casting clubs, 1 charter vessel and 6 bottomfishing vessels. The following are those fishermen, fishing boats and fishing clubs, so far, that have offered to volunteer their time and effort for tagging fish for DAR:

<u>Individual</u>	<u>Fishermen:</u>
Clay Ching	Kirk Murakami
Nathan Ching	Wes Masuda
Brad Deffenbaugh	Darryl Nakasone
Peter Dunn-Rankin	Martin Narido
Brett Fee	Brook Nottage
Mike Fujimoto	Ken Ogawa
Scott Furushima	Paul Okouchi
Rick Gaffney	Bert Oshiro
Shaun Hiyashida	Floyd Otani
Michael Hee	Jay Oyama
David Higa	Joe Randall
Michael Horii	Mike Sakamoto
Kevin Ishikawa	Randy Senas
Chuck Johnston	Larry Souza
Reggie Kokubun	Clay Tam
Reed Kondo	Tracy Tanaka
Jeff Konn	Ross Tanoue
Steve Kwiat	Gary Todoki
Anthony Lau	Dalton Wong
Kent Lindsey	Karen Yamada
Eric Magarifuji	Brian Yoshida
Lee Magarifuji	Gavin Yuen

**Fishing Clubs:** **Contact Person**

Hilo Casting Club	Kinney Louie
Kakaako Kasting Club	Primo
Molokai Fishing Club	Guy Takata

**Vessels:** **Vessel Captain**

K-IX	Jeff Rogers
Imua	Gary Dill
Kaimi Kai	Guy Ohara
Iwalani	Silas Naig
Laysan	Ed Timoney
Fortuna	Bill Strickland
Jaime Elizabeth	William Wakefield

***Fish Tagged since July 2000 (as of October 2000)***

<i>Fish</i>	<i>Numbers Tagged</i>	<i>Size Range (inches in Fork Length)</i>
Kahala	214	10-5/8 to 48
Butaguchi	16	23 to 32
Omilu	15	11 to 18

***Current Tag Recoveries of Fish Tagged since July 2000***

<i>Species</i>	<i>Tagging Site</i>	<i>Recovery Site</i>	<i>Days of Freedom</i>	<i>Distance Traveled (miles)</i>
Kahala	Kona	Kona	24	<1
Kahala	NWHI	NWHI	44	3
Kahala	Kona	Wawahi wa'a Pt.	54	5
Omilu	Kewalo Basin, Oahu	Kewalo Basin, Oahu	4	<1
Kahala	Kona	Kona	49	<1

We appear to be off to a good start - **A BIG MAHALO** to all you fishermen for your tremendous response and support for this project! As the data cards keep coming in, we will continue to update information in each issue of *Current Line*. In order for this project to be successful, it is very important that we keep accurate and timely data. We encourage anglers to report releases and recaptures as soon as possible. Even if your data card is not filled up, please feel free to call or write to us about the information that you have already recorded. It's ALWAYS great to hear from you guys

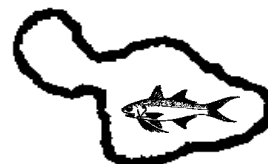
and we never miss an opportunity to "talk story" about fishing!

If you have any questions or would like to participate as a volunteer fisherman in DAR's Uluu Tagging Project, please contact Annette Tagawa or Clay Tam on Oahu at (808) 587-0593.

**Correction:**

In the last issue of *Current Line*, we mentioned that a kahala that was tagged in Kona was recovered in Milolii. It was incorrectly stated that Milolii is on the east side of the Big Island when in actuality it is located south of Kona. Mahalo to Capt. Rogers for bringing this to our attention.!

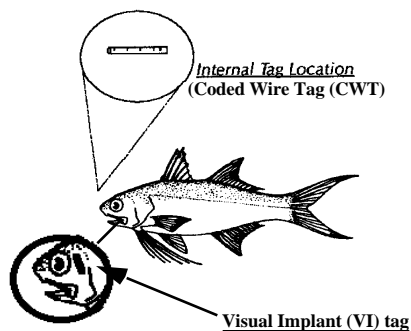
**MORE MOI  
FOR MAUI**



The Ke'anae district, located along the eastern coastline of the island of Maui, is noted for its rugged coastline, verdant cliffs, and the famous winding Hana Belt Road. Despite the thousands of tourists that have visited this pristine area, Ke'anae remains a subsistence community that continues to practice many of the cultivation, gathering, fishing and hunting traditions passed on by their ancestors. Recreational shoreline fishing, utilizing all forms of fishing methods from pole and line, spearing, and cast nets, remains a favorite pastime activity. In recent years, however, concern over the decline of the fisheries was expressed by the local kupunas (elders) and other community members. In 1996, a local organization called Na Moku Aupuni o Ko'olau Hui was created to enhance, preserve and protect the quality of life and environment of the Ke'anae-Wailua Nui ahupua'a (a principle of land-use which runs "from the sea to the mountains"). The Hui, recognizing the importance of the proper management of their fishery resources, are assisting the State of Hawaii's Division of Aquatic Resources-Anuenue Fisheries Research Center (AFRC) with their stock enhancement program efforts to replenish dwindling fishery stocks in Hawaii.

Honomanu Bay and Wailua Bay were selected as sites for the test releases of

moi (Pacific threadfin, *Polydactylus sexfilis*) juveniles. 3,000 moi were released at each site last September with help from members of the Hui's fishing committee and students from Ke'anae Elementary School and Hana High School. Each of the moi were marked with both a coded-wire-tag (CWT) and a visual flourescent stripe color coded tag (VI).

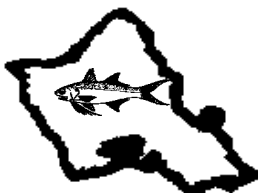


The CWT is a 0.25 mm x 1.1 mm magnetized tag that is inserted into the snout of the moi. The CWT contains a microscopic code that will provide valuable biological and fishery information such as growth rate in the wild, migration pattern, size-at-release survival, suitability of release site, etc. The VI tag comes in various colors and is injected into the soft clear tissue behind the left or right eye. While the CWT is not visible, its retention is excellent. In comparison, the VI tag does not have as high a retention rate but is easily detected in captured moi.

Cast net sampling at Honomanu Bay and Wailua Bay are conducted at least every two months by AFRC personnel, coastal conditions permitting. Despite reported sightings of moi at both locations by local fishermen, no tagged moi have yet been recorded at this time.

Posters and flyers describing the moi release activity have been circulated throughout Maui. Maui fishermen are encouraged to report any moi caught to either the Division of Aquatic Resources, Maui Stock Enhancement Program at (808)243-5294 or to Na Moku Aupuni o Ko'olau Hui in Ke'anae at (808)248-8658, to have their catch checked for any tags. The continued cooperation and assistance from the Ke'anae community will hopefully result someday in the enhancement of moi along the coast of east Maui.

## **MORE MOI FOR OAHU TOO!**



As part of the State of Hawaii's Division of Aquatic Resources-Anuenue Fisheries Research Center's stock enhancement program, 1,000 moi were released in the Waikiki FMA/MLCD area last month. These moi are also marked with both a coded-wire-tag (CWT) and a visual flourescent stripe color coded tag (VI) like the moi released on Maui (see previous article).

If you happen to catch one of these tagged moi, especially those that are caught along the coast between the Ilikai Hotel to the Diamond Head Lighthouse, please call 832-5003. We are interested in examining the fish and recovering the CWT as well as the following information:

- 1) Date caught
- 2) Area caught

### ***YOU KEEP THE FISH!***

The more recoveries we have, the more information we will have to determine if these releases are helping to increase fish yields. We are sorry that we are not able to offer any rewards for these tag returns. If you are interested, we will be able to provide you with information about your catch on the time of release, where they were released, how long they were at liberty, and how fast they grew. Your kokua will be very much appreciated!

## **FRESHWATER FISHING**

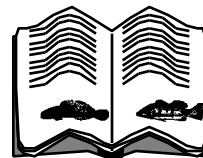
### **2000 TROUT OPENING**

Here are the totals for the last trout opening:



	1998 Opening	Feb to Mar 2000 Special Opening	2000 Opening
# of anglers	2,956	2,690	1,560
# of fish	9,294	8,520	4,314
Ave. length of fish	--	12.8 inches	11.2 inches
Ave. weight of fish	--	17.2 oz.	12 oz.

## **A NEW BOOK ON HAWAII'S NATIVE AND EXOTIC FRESHWATER ANIMALS**



A new book entitled *Hawaii's Native and Exotic Freshwater Animals* will soon be available at your nearest bookstore. Written by Mike Yamamoto and Annette Tagawa, Aquatic Biologists with the Division of Aquatic Resources, this reference provides information on over 70 species of fishes, invertebrates, amphibians and reptiles found in Hawaiian freshwater habitats. Illustrated with over a hundred full color photographs, this convenient, easy-to-use guide is the perfect companion for ANYONE interested in Hawaii's freshwater animals. For all you freshwater fishermen, this book includes full color photographs of Hawaii's freshwater gamefish to help you identify your catch and then some, as well as some background information on the fish's history in these Islands.

Take a step back in time and reminisce about the days when you used to catch 'o'opu, dojo and medaka with a red scoop net and then travel forward to see what Hawaii's streams and other freshwater habitats are like today.

This book is a must see for anyone who grew up exploring the streams of Hawaii!

## **OFFSHORE FISHERIES**

### **FAD PROJECT**

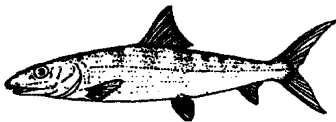
Here is the most recent update of missing FADs:

**MISSING FADs (as of Sept. 11, 2000):**

FAD	Location	Island
JJ	Kamohio	Kaho'olawe
Q	Pauwela Point	Maui
O	Kalaupapa	Moloka'i
BO	Barbers Point	O'ahu
II	Haleiwa	O'ahu

For current locations and/or more information, contact Warren Cortez at 848-2939. Also, if you know of any FADs that broke loose, see any light out or have any other comments, please give Warren a call.

## FISH FACTS



*Albula glossodonta & Albula forsteri*  
(Bonefish, 'O'io)

### SIZES

**Length:** up to 3 feet or more in length. Maximum length recorded at around 41 inches for *A. glossodonta* and 39 inches for *A. forsteri*.

**Weight:** up to about 16 to 18 pounds

### BREEDING

**Sexual Maturity:** probably around 14 inches or so

**Spawning:** unknown

### LIFESTYLE

**Habitat:** seen on shallow sand flats of lagoons and bays, sometimes with some awa'awa.

**Diet:** Feeds mainly on small mollusks, worms, and crustaceans that live beneath the sand

**Life Span:** maximum recorded age is about 12 years

**Distribution:** Indopacific: from the Red Sea to the Hawaiian and Tuamotu Islands, north to southern Japan, south to Lord Howe island, Australia, and throughout Micronesia.

## RELATED SPECIES

The 'o'io is a member of the Bonefish Family of which there are only 5 species worldwide.

Hawaii has two species which occur here and throughout the Indo-Pacific. These two species, *A. glossodonta* and *A. forsteri*, are difficult to tell apart even when seen swimming side by side. However, one can distinguish *A. glossodonta* from *A. forsteri* by comparing their lower jaws. The lower jaw of *A. glossodonta* is round in shape whereas the lower jaw of *A. forsteri* is more pointed. Also, *A. glossodonta* has a blackish spot on the underside of the tip of the snout. The most common one found of the two is *A. glossodonta*.

'O'io or bonefish are not considered commercially important species, but are better known for their popularity as game fishes around the world. It is considered the ultimate fly-fishing game fish today. The current record for 'o'io in Hawaii is 18 lbs. 2 oz.. Bonefish are aptly named due to numerous fine bones found in

the flesh. In Hawaii, 'o'io are eaten raw (i.e. lomied) or made into fishcake that is fried or boiled.

The following table will give you an idea of how fast these fish grow and how old they are. Please note that these are just ball park figures and meant only to give you a general idea on the relationship of length, weight, and age.

<i>Length, Weight and Age of 'O'io</i>		
Fork Length (inches)	Weight (pounds)	Age (years)
9	0.4	1
13	1.1	2
16	2.1	3
19	3.7	4
21	5	5
23	6.6	6
24	7.6	7
25	8.6	8
26	9.7	9

The Department of Land and Natural Resources receives financial support under the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration and other federal programs. Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and the laws of the State of Hawaii, the U.S. Department of the Interior and the State of Hawaii prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, and disability. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility, or if you desire information, please write to: Affirmative Action Officer, Personnel Office, Department of Land and Natural Resources, 1151 Punchbowl Street, Rm. 231, Honolulu, HI 96813, or the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Office for Human Resources, 1849 C Street NW, Room 3058, Washington, D. C. 20240.